

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COMMISSION MEETING OF THE MICHIGAN PUBLIC  
SERVICE COMMISSION HELD IN ITS OFFICES ON JANUARY 31, 2017

Commission Chairman Sally A. Talberg called the meeting to order at 1:31 p.m.  
Executive Secretary Kavita Kale called the roll and declared there was a quorum.

**PRESENT**

Commission: Sally A. Talberg, Chairman  
Norman J. Saari, Commissioner  
Rachael A. Eubanks, Commissioner

Staff: Kavita Kale  
Blair Renfro  
Judy Palnau  
Al Freeman  
Paul Proudfoot  
Lacie Latimore  
Laura Turner  
Cody Matthews  
Gary Kitts  
Derrell Slaughter  
Dave Isakson  
Dan Blair  
Gloria Pearl Jones

Public: Jacob Kanclerz, MIRS  
Suzy Westmoreland, MEGA  
Karen Wienke, Consumers Energy Company  
Kwafo Adarkwa, ITC  
Tim Hoffman, Consumers Energy  
Yvette Collins, AT&T

- I. Commissioner Saari moved to approve today's amended agenda, Commissioner Eubanks seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The amended agenda was approved.

- II.** Commissioner Saari moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Commission Meeting of January 12, 2017 and the Special Commission Meeting of January 20, 2017, Commissioner Eubanks seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The minutes were approved.

### **III. ORDERS**

#### **A. COMMUNICATIONS**

1. U-12328 CENTURYTEL SOLUTIONS, LLC  
(license surrender)

Case No. U-12328 involves a request by CenturyTel Solutions, LLC, to surrender its license to provide basic local exchange service. The order before you grants the license surrender. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-14176 AT&T MICHIGAN AND WINDSTREAM NORLIGHT, LLC  
U-14398 AT&T MICHIGAN AND WINDSTREAM NTI, LLC  
U-15027 AT&T MICHIGAN AND TELCOVE OPERATIONS, LLC  
U-15302 AT&T MICHIGAN AND WINDSTREAM KDL, LLC  
(interconnection agreements and amendments)

Case No. U-14176 et al. requests Commission approval of interconnection agreements and amendments. The order before you approves the requests. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-17079 O1 COMMUNICATIONS CENTRAL, LLC  
(license surrender)

Case No. U-17079 involves a request of O1 Communications Central, LLC, to surrender its license to provide basic local exchange service. The order before you grants the license surrender. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

**B. ELECTRIC**

1. U-17981 INDEPENDENT POWER PRODUCERS COALITION OF MICHIGAN  
v CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY

Case No. U-17981 involves a complaint filed by the Independent Power Producers Coalition of Michigan. The order before you directs the Administrative Law Judge to set a schedule for this contested matter. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-18014 DTE ELECTRIC COMPANY  
(rate case)

Case No. U-18014 involves an application filed by DTE Electric Company for authority to increase its rates for the generation and distribution of electricity and for other relief. The order before you authorizes the utility to increase its rates for the sale and distribution of electric energy in the amount of \$184,336,000, on a jurisdictional basis, and authorizes other relief, as set forth in the order. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

**Chairman Talberg comments:**

*“Today the Commission is approving a rate increase for DTE Electric. The big theme of this case is infrastructure.*

*We know one of the primary reasons that customers experience power outages is the lack of maintenance and age of electric distribution equipment such as substations, transformers and wires. To help improve electric reliability for all energy users, the Commission is approving new investments by DTE Electric to upgrade its distribution infrastructure.*

*And to build on this commitment, we are asking DTE Electric to develop a comprehensive, five-year system improvement investment plan to address aging infrastructure and ensure safe and reliable operations in the future. This planning effort will provide increased communication and coordinated planning for electric system upgrades. It will also complement Michigan’s efforts to rebuild its infrastructure across all industries.*

*We appreciate all the hard work of the administrative law judge, Commission staff, and all the parties in handling this case in a thoughtful, thorough manner.”*

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

3. U-18081 CONSUMERS ENERGY COMPANY  
(’15 EO reconciliation)

Case No. U-18081 involves an application by Consumers Energy Company requesting authority to reconcile renewable energy costs and revenues for 2015. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the proceeding. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

4. U-18145 NORTHERN STATES POWER COMPANY  
(’17 PSCR plan)

Case No. U-18145 involves an application by Northern States Power Company, a Wisconsin corporation and wholly-owned subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., for authority to implement a power supply cost recovery plan and factors for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2017. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the case. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

5. U-18147 UPPER PENINSULA POWER COMPANY  
(’17 PSCR plan)

Case No. U-18147 involves an application by Upper Peninsula Power Company for approval of a power supply cost recovery plan and factors for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2017, and other related approvals. The order before you approves a settlement agreement resolving all issues in the case. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

**C. GAS**

1. U-17691 DTE GAS COMPANY  
(rehearing)

Case No. U-17691 involves an application filed by DTE Gas Company for approval of its gas cost recovery plan, five-year forecast, and gas cost recovery factors for the 12-month period ending March 31, 2016. The order before you denies a petition for rehearing filed by DTE Gas Company. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

2. U-18226 BGS KIMBALL GAS STORAGE, LLC  
(withdrawal of intrastate tariff)

Case No. U-18226 involves an application by BGS Kimball Gas Storage, LLC, seeking ex parte approval of its request to withdraw its intrastate

tariff and rate book and for further relief. The order before you approves the application and grants the requested relief. Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission approve the order at its January 31, 2017 meeting. Commissioner Eubanks seconded that motion.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The order was adopted.

#### IV. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

##### **Chairman Talberg's Closing Remarks:**

*“The Commission issued a press release today related to Charter Communications and the availability of low-cost broadband for eligible low-income customers with eligible K-12 children. It is also the first time that seniors were included in this program. Now eligible low-income seniors can take advantage of this opportunity.”* For further information, you can download the press release at: [http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,4639,7-159-16400\\_17280-403697--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/mpsc/0,4639,7-159-16400_17280-403697--,00.html).

*“In addition, the Commission along with Michigan Agency for Energy today released a study that found that electrical reliability standards will be met in the State if planned projects in Michigan are completed.”* For further information, you can download the press release at: [http://www.michigan.gov/energy/0,4580,7-230-72048\\_72070-403673--,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/energy/0,4580,7-230-72048_72070-403673--,00.html).

Chairman Talberg announced that the next regularly scheduled Commission Meeting will be held on February 10, 2017 at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Saari moved that the Commission adjourn, Commissioner Eubanks seconded.

Vote: Yeas – Talberg, Saari, Eubanks  
Nays – None

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

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Kavita Kale  
Executive Secretary